

JOHN HUTCHINGS

The Hutchings family came to what is now Perry County, Il about 1816 and settled on Beaucoup Creek northeast of Pinckneyville. With them came a colored man, Landon Parks, also Agis, his wife, and another colored woman, Dinah.¹

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¹ McDonnough's History of Randolph, Monroe, and Perry Cos., Il 1883. Page 473 Beaucoup Twp.

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Hutchings is counted in Washington Co., Il in 1818 with three blacks. Washington Co. is incorrect as they came to and continued to live in T4S R2W in what later became Perry County. This is known as Beaucoup Twp. and this family lived approximately three miles south of Washington County. Until the year 1827 this was a part of Randolph County.

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E. Spurgeon,
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OLD CIRCUIT COURT BOOK "A" p/34, Perry Co., Il.
Office of Circuit Clerk.

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PARKS, LANDON et al vs HUTCHINGS: October term 1830.

Parks had for his attorney, David I. Baker. Parks et al were Hutchings slaves and contrary to history book story that he freed them, this record indicates that they had to sue for their release.


E. Spurgeon,
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Seal of my office this 7th day of July
1838
James Swab clerk
Cecile County Col Mo.

John Hutchings to London, Agga &c

Know all men by these presents that I John Hutchings of the County of Perry and State of Illinois for divers good and valuable Considerations (no thereunto moving) do by these presents emancipate free and set at liberty London Commonly called London Parks and Agga and Jeremiah, James, John and Simon four of the children of the said Agga persons of colour and I do hereby for myself my heirs executors administrators and assigns release and quit claim unto the said London and the said Agga and to the said Jeremiah James John and Simon the said children of the said Agga and to each of them all claim, right, title, interest and demand whatsoever of in and to the persons of colour above named and each of them and of in and to their and each of their services or labours which I ever had now have or can have to the persons above named or either of them or to their or either of their services labours or services by reason of the indenturing or registering of the said London or Agga or either of the persons before named under the laws of the Illinois or the Indiana Territory concerning the introduction of Negroes and mulattoes into the same or otherwise. In testimony whereof I have hereunto set my hand and seal this 8th day of

October A D 1830

John X Hutchings 
mark

Witnessed and delivered

David A. Baker
J. H. Jones

John Hutchings to London Park, Col.

State of Illinois

Perry County

So Be it remembered that on the 8th day of October 1860 personally appeared before me Alvin H. Jones a Justice of the peace in and for the County of Perry John Hutchings personally known to me to be the person who executed the within deed and acknowledged that he signed sealed and delivered the same for the use and purposes therein mentioned all which I do accordingly certify.

Alvin H. Jones J.P. Seal
I underscored names of colored people who were free. E.S.

~~Daniel Dry & wife (to John Woodrume)~~

~~(This Indenture made this twenty fourth of July in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and thirty two and between Daniel Dry and Barbabighin wife of Perry county and state of Illinois of the one part and John Woodrume of the county and state aforesaid of the other part Witnesseth that the said Daniel Dry and Barbabighin his wife for and in consideration of the sum of one hundred and eleven dollars to them in hand paid by the said John Woodrume the receipt whereof is hereby acknowledged hath granted bargained and sold and by these presents doth grant bargain sell release remise and forever quit claim unto the said John Woodrume his heirs and assigns forever all their Right Interest and claims in and to a certain tract of land lying and being situated in the county of Perry and state aforesaid it being the north part of the west half of the south west quarter of section twelve in township six south of Range two west in the district of land offered for sale at Kaskaskia Illinois town bounded by the following Meas and bounds beginning at the south west corner of section twelve in range two west town six south in the~~

PERRY COUNTY, ILLINOIS. Deed record "A" p/85 SLAVE RELEASE

Notice that John Hutchings emancipates and sets free Landon, commonly called Landon Parks, also Agga and four of her children, namely: Jeremiah; James; John; and Simeon. This fact is mentioned twice in the document and does not say they are the children of Landon Parks.

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Elizabeth E. Spurgeon,
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BRINGING BLACKS IN TO THE STATE

Cases brought against residents of Perry Co., Illinois, in Circuit Court, April 1863 Term. All cases quashed.

Case No.	People of the State of Illinois vs.....	(This column my notes...EES)
12	John Hunter	Cutler area near Randolph Co. line.
15	Lysias Heape	Tamaroa area
16	George Burbank	DuQuoin
17	James McClure	
18	Oliver H. McCarver	Tamaroa physician
19	James Preston	Cutler near John Hunter Lived on the "Mound"
20	Samuel Dodens or Dobins	
21	Edwin Burbank	DuQuoin
22	Hiram Burbank	DuQuoin
23	John W. Calvert	T4S,R4W,Coulterville P.O.
24	Henry Hoxey	
25	Z.B. Curlee	Tamaroa
26	John Cooper	N. of Cutler
27	Elihu Onstott	DuQuoin
28	William Frizell	DuQuoin-Nine Mile area
29	John Dushain	DuQuoin
30	Abner or Alonzo W. Nason	St. Johns
31	Stephen R. Wetmore	
32	Hawkins S. Osborn	Pyatts
35	William J. Walker	Pyatts
36	Arad Ross	Sutter Comm.N.of Jackson Co. line.
37	John A. Bowlin	DuQuoin
38	Fonda Hamilton	S. of Pinckneyville(?)
39	Frank Kelso	Probably DuQuoin-married a Burbank
41	Lewis Hammack	Pinckneyville Atty-at-law

Copied by Elizabeth Eiker Spurgeon from Perry County Court Records.
(See Index to Criminal Records-EES)

State of Illinois } In Perry County Circuit Court
Perry County } at the September term A.D. 1863

The People &c
vs
John Hunter.

Indictment for Bringing
black person into the State.

And Now Comes the defendant
And moves that the Indictment be Quashed.
And Assigns for Cause. the following to wit;
1st Count does not show that the Negro was not
a Resident of said Perry County. when brought in.
Nor does it aver that the person brought in was
a Negro Slave. Nor does it aver that defendant
intended to free such person.

2^d Count does not aver that said Negro was
not a Resident of this State. when brought in. Nor
does it show how he caused said Negro to be
brought into this State.

3^d Count does not aver that said Negro was not
a Resident of this State when brought in. Nor does it
show how he caused said Negro to be brought into
this State. Nor does it aver that said Negro was a
Slave or owed service.

4th Count does not aver that the Negro was a Slave
or owed service. Nor does it aver that the Negro
was brought from another State. Nor does it aver

From the Geography of the State (of which
the Court takes judicial ^{notice}) no person can be brought
into this State at Perry County. And therefore the
Court has no jurisdiction. And the Indictment
Should be Quashed.

Nor is the Name of the Negro given in the
Indictment. Nor any of the Counts thereof. it is
therefore uncertain. and Should be Quashed.

Nor is it Averred in said indictment nor
any of the Counts thereof. whether the Negro was
a male Negro. or a female Negro. it is
therefore Vague, indefinite, and uncertain,
and Should be Quashed.

Nor does said indictment Aver that the Negro
was not in Company with his Owner or his Owners
Agents in transit from the State of Missouri to the
State of Kentucky, or from the State of Kentucky to
the State of Missouri. as under the Laws of the
Congress of the United States, of which the Court
will take judicial Notice, they have a right.
And therefore said Defendant A. B. C. that said
indictment may be Quashed.

John Michael
Defdts atty.

STATE OF ILLINOIS)

Perry County) ss In Perry County Circuit Court at the
September Term A.D. 1863.

The People of the State of Illinois)
vs) Indictment for Bringing
John Hunter) a black person into the State.

And now comes the defendant and moves that the Indictment be Quashed.

And assigns for cause the following, to wit;

1st Count does not show that the Negro was not a Resident of said Perry County when brought in. Nor does it aver that the person brought in was a Negro Slave. Nor does it aver that defendant intended to free such person.

2nd Count does not aver that said negro was not a resident of this State when brought in. Nor does it show how he caused said Negro to be brought into this State.

3rd Count does not aver that said Negro was not a resident of this State when brought in nor does it show how he caused said negro to be brought into this State. Nor does it aver that said negro was a slave or owed service.

4th Count don't aver that the negro was a slave or owed service. Nor does it aver that the Negro was brought from another State. Nor does it aver that the Negro was brought into this State.

Nor does either of the counts in said indictment aver whos_ slave said negro was. Nor to whom he owed service and labor, if to any one.

From the geography of the State (of which the court takes judicial notice) no person can be brought into this State at Perry County, and therefore the court has no jurisdiction. And the indictment should be quashed.

Nor is the name of the negro given in the indictment.
Nor any of the counts there it is therefore uncertain and should
be quashed.

Nor is it averred in said indictment nor any of the
counts thereof whether the negro was a male negro or a female negro.
It is therefore vague, indefinite, and uncertain, and should be quashed.

Nor does said indictment aver that the Negro was not in
company with his owner or his owner's agent in transit from the state
of Missouri to the state of Kentucky or from the state of Kentucky to
the state of Missouri, as under the laws of Congress of the United
States, of which the Court will take judicial notice, they have a
right, and therefore said Defendant asks that said indictment may
be quashed.

/s/ John Michan

D'fdts Atty.

JOHN MICHAN

John Michan was born in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, November 1st, 1822, and came to this area about 1827. He died February 4th, 1890 and is buried in Old Bethel Cemetery, Sparta, Il.

He became a prominent attorney in Sparta and was the defending attorney in the Hunter case and possibly all of the others as well.

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